

## **“Godly” Garb – What to Wear**

### **The Breastplate**

*"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand." (Ephesians 6:10-13, NIV)*

#### **I. Review**

- Struggle
- Wrestle
- Against the powers of this dark world
- Spiritual forces
- When (not if) the day of evil comes

*"Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist..." (Ephesians 6:14, NIV)*

**Temptations TRIP us up.**

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that **so easily entangles**, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:1-2, NIV)*

#### **II. Why a BREASTPLATE?**

**The PRIORITY**

**The PROTECTION**

##### **1. The HEART**

*"For as he thinks in his heart, so is he." (Proverbs 23:7(a), NKJV)*

*"For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery," (Mark 7:21, NIV)*

##### **2. The BOWELS**

*"But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?" (1 John 3:17, NKJV)*

### 3. Areas of **ATTACK**

*"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."*  
(Ephesians 6:10, NKJV)

On the **MIND**

On the **EMOTIONS**

### III. What is righteousness?

#### **SELF righteousness**

*"All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags..."* (Isaiah 64:6, NIV)

*"As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."* (Romans 3:10-12, NIV)

*"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"* (Romans 3:23, NIV)

#### Righteousness that is **CREDITED** to us

*"This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe."*  
(Romans 3:22(a), NIV)

*"What does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."* (Romans 4:3, NIV)

### IV. What does **RIGHTEOUSNESS** look like?

#### A. The two shoulder **STRAPS**.

Being right before **GOD**

Becoming right with **OTHERS**

#### B. **PRACTICE** Righteousness.

Excusing **SIN**

Loss of **JOY & PEACE**

Loss of **EFFECTIVENESS**

*"Awake to righteousness, and do not sin; for some do not have the knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame."* (1 Corinthians 15:34, NKJV)